

1	2	3
16.	Tamil Nadu (including Chennai & Pondicherry (U.T.))	1245503
17.	U.P.	104705
18.	West Bengal (including Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Calcutta)	71392
19.	Delhi	102576
	Total	1279894

Mid Air Disaster

*90. SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV :
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a major mid air disaster was averted over Delhi skies during January, 1997, when an Indian Airlines plane carrying him among other passengers from Bombay came dangerously close to an Air India aircraft;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to ensure non-recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) On 4.1.97 the Commander of Indian Airlines flight IC-168 reported airmiss with an Air India flight AI-308.

(b) to (d) The investigation into the incident conducted by Directorate General of Civil Aviation has revealed that Air India aircraft had overtaken the Indian Airlines aircraft at 60 NM (Nautical Miles) before Delhi, maintaining a vertical separation of about 3000 ft and hence there was no risk of collision between the two aircraft.

(e) DGCA has advised Airports Authority of India (AAI) to take the following measures :-

(i) Air Traffic Controllers should strictly follow the laid down ATC procedures and instructions.

(ii) Standard phraseology should be used while giving instructions to aircraft.

(iii) Frequent proficiency monitoring of ATC staff in association with the Directorate General of Civil Aviation officers should be carried out.

(iv) Modernisation of Air Traffic Services of Bombay and Delhi airports should be made operational expeditiously.

(v) Proper maintenance of navigational communication and landing facilities should be ensured.

Tata-Singapore Airlines Joint Venture

*91. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tata-Singapore Airlines joint venture has recently been approved by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) contrary to the declared Government's policy decision of not allowing foreign airlines equity participation in Indian domestic airlines sector;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof and the decision taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether representation have also been received in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(e) the impact of induction of such a large capacity Tata-Singapore Airlines venture on Indian domestic Airlines; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to safeguard the interests of domestic airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) The Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) had recommended the joint venture proposal of Tata-Singapore Airlines. Since the modalities for permitting foreign equity and NRI equity participation in the domestic air transport services are under formulation, the Government has decided to re-examine the proposal after the said modalities are formulated.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. It has been represented that the proposal should not be approved as it would adversely affect the interests of the existing domestic air operators in general and national carriers in particular.

(e) It is difficult to make any categorical assessment of likely impact on Indian domestic airlines at this stage. However, a report by Indian Airlines speaks of sickness as a result of possible over capacity.

(f) Government is conscious to safeguard the interests of the domestic airlines and appropriate steps would be taken whenever required.

Employment Casual Employees in Railways

*92. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the rules followed while employing casual employees in his Ministry;

(b) whether these rules have been violated during the last three years; and

(c) if so, the action taken against the persons found guilty in this regard and the zone-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) As per extant policy fresh face casual labour on the railways are employed with the prior personal approval of General Managers, adhering to extant instructions regarding the procedure to be followed, and educational qualifications, medical standards and age limits as laid down for the particular category in which they are likely to be absorbed.

Percentage laid down in favour of SC/ST for recruitment to Group 'D' categories are applied in the intake of Casual Labour both in the open line and the projects.

While engaging fresh faces as casual labour for works expected to last for some months, the orders regarding reservation for employment to ex-servicemen are also to be followed.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Co-operation from Germany

*93. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sought any co-operation from Germany for the supply of Railway equipment and their installation and commissioning; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Indian Railways have sought German assistance for improvement of signalling between Ghaziabad and Kanpur. A proposal in this regard was processed through the Ministry of Finance to KFW/Germany who had a feasibility study done.

Time Spent by Various Channels of Doordarshan

*94. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of telecast hours by different channels of Doordarshan during the period from January to December, 1996;

(b) the number of hours spent for the regional languages during the same period, language-wise and channel-wise;

(c) whether the Doordarshan has played any role in developing the regional languages;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) A statement is inclosed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Doordarshan has a number of Regional Language Satellite Channels with programmes in Assamese, Bengali, Gujrati, Kannada, Kashmiri, Malayalam, Marathi, Oriya, Punjabi, Tamil and Telugu. These channels are available in the entire country through a Cable or an appropriate dish antenna and also include the Regional Network programmes which are available terrestrially within the respective States from 4.30 to 8.30 p.m. everyday. Thus, Regional Language Satellite Services (RLSS) facilitate telecast of more programmes in regional languages and provide access to regional programmes for viewers throughout the country.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

Originating Station and Channel	Total hours of telecast per week (Hrs.-Mts.)	Language of Telecast
1	2	3
Delhi		
*National Network (including ETV)	90-00	Mainly in Hindi, Some Programmes in English, Urdu, Sanskrit and feature films in all Indian languages.
*Delhi Regional (including ETV)	32-00	Mainly in Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi and feature films in all dialects.
*Metro Network	82-00	Mainly in Hindi, and English, News Bulletin in Urdu.
*Single Metro	13-30	Mainly in Hindi and some programmes in Punjabi and English.
*DD-3	91-00	English and Hindi, Feature films in all Indian languages in Movie-Club.